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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/760,552	01/21/2004	Yasushi Yokomitsu	L8612.04101	8634
24257	7590	04/13/2010		
Dickinson Wright PLLC James E. Ledbetter, Esq. International Square 1875 Eye Street, NW., Suite 1200 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			EXAMINER HAMZA, FARUK	
			ART UNIT 2455	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 04/13/2010	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/760,552

Applicant(s)

YOKOMITSU ET AL.

Examiner

FARUK HAMZA

Art Unit

2455

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-3, 6-10, 12 and 14-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/06)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Response to Amendment

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed on January 21, 2010. Claims 1-3 and 6-19 have been amended. Claims 4-5 have been canceled. Claims 1-3 and 6-20 are pending.
2. The applicant should always use the period for response to thoroughly and very closely proof read and review the whole of the application for correct correlation between reference numerals in the textual portion of the Specification and Drawings along with any minor spelling errors, general typographical errors, accuracy, assurance of proper use for Trademarks TM, and other legal symbols ®, where required, and clarity of meaning in the Specification, Drawings, and specifically the claims (i.e., provide proper antecedent basis for "the" and "said" within each claim). Minor typographical errors could render a Patent unenforceable and so the applicant is strongly encouraged to aid in this endeavor.

Specification

3. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to ***a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited.*** The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as

"means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

4. The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3, 6-10, 12, 14-16 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Asano (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0076830) hereinafter referred as Asano.

As to claim 1, Asano teaches a server, which is subordinate to a relay device having a port forwarding feature, comprising: a port management section, which requests the relay device to assign a predetermined port number for a representative server and which is assigned a port number by the relay device (P[0119]), wherein the port management section acquires the wide area network address of the relay device and port mapping information if the port management section is registered to the predetermined port number and, further wherein the port management section provides the port mapping information on other servers in response to an access from a wide area network (P[0120]).

As to claim 2, Asano teaches the server according to claim 1, wherein when a request is issued to the relay device, in case the predetermined number is unregistered, the port management means is assigned the predetermined port number, in case the predetermined port number is registered, the port management means is assigned another port number (P[0118]).

As to claim 3, Asano teaches the server according to claim 1, wherein in case it is assigned to the predetermined port number, said port management means periodically requests port mapping information (P[0123]).

As to claim 6, Asano teaches the server according to claim 1, wherein in case the server is assigned a predetermined port number, the port management means requests use registration information from the relay device and fetches port mapping information from the use registration information (P[0123]).

As to claim 7, Asano teaches the server according to claim 1, wherein in case the server is assigned a predetermined port number, the port management means notifies the other server of its port number assigned (P[0121]).

As to claim 8, Asano teaches the server according to any one of claims 1 through 7, further comprising: a web page generating section and generating a web page where address information on other servers is attached in a linkable fashion (P[0014]).

As to claim 9, Asano teaches the server according to any one of claims 1 through 8, wherein the port management means adds host names for identification to other servers and posts the host names in the address information (P[0120]).

As to 10, Asano teaches the server according to any one of claims 1 through 9, wherein when the server has detected that a server registered to a predetermined port number withdrew from the LAN, another server transmits an identification message to register itself to the predetermined port (P[0142]).

As to 12, Asano teaches the server according to any one of claims 1 through 9, wherein after detection of withdrawal, another server is registered to the predetermined port based on the mapped port numbers ([0120]).

As to claim 14, Asano teaches the server according to any one of claims 10 through 13, wherein a server registered to a predetermined port number communicates as a single unit a withdrawal notice message to the servers in the LAN to notify that the server has withdrawn from the LAN ([0124]).

As to claim 15, Asano teaches the server according to any one of claims 10 through 13, wherein a server in the LAN detects that there is no inquiry about port mapping information from the server registered to a predetermined port number to detect that the server has withdrawn from the LAN ([0123]).

As to claim 16, Asano teaches the server according to any one of claims 10 through 13, wherein all servers in the LAN make inquiries to the server registered to a predetermined port number about its presence and receiving no response, detects the server has withdrawn from the LAN ([0124]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asano and in view of Belknap et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,763,377) hereinafter referred as Belknap.

Asano teaches the server of claim 1 (P[0014]).

Asano does not explicitly teach the claim limitation of a camera, an image data generator, which processes a picture signal of a picture shot with the camera to encode the signal, and a web server section, which transmits the image data to a wide area network, wherein the server transmits a photographed image as an image server.

However, Belknap teaches the claim limitation of a camera, an image data generator, which processes a picture signal of a picture shot with the camera to encode the signal, and a web server section, which transmits the image data to a wide area network, wherein the server transmits a photographed image as an image server (Column 10, lines 1-15).

It would have been obvious to the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Asano by incorporating Belknap's teaching of managing media assets in a network through graphical user interface, which would facilitate to manage media assets remotely. One would be motivated to do such to enhance system's usability.

Claims 18-20 do not teach or define any new limitations other than above claims. Therefore, claims 18-20 also rejected for similar reasons.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 11 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in its

entirety as potentially teaching of all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Faruk Hamza whose telephone number is

571-272-7969. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached at 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 886-217-9197 (toll –free).

Faruk Hamza

Patent Examiner

Group Art Unit 2455

/Faruk Hamza/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2455